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Via ECFS  
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to  
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I chose a competitive, locally-based internet and phone service provider, Sonic, for their superior service choices, excellent customer service, and competitive pricing. My internet and land line are bundled in a well-priced package not offered by AT&T or Comcast, as I do not want TV service. This is what market competition is supposed to offer customers. More, not less, competition is good for consumers.

Broadband is critical to my personal life in communications with family and friends as well as keeping up with news and with civic participation. It has been critical to my professional life as a freelance illustrator working from home.

In none of those roles as a private customer or a small businessdo I want to try to absorb an increase in cost for internet and phone services.

I have friends who live in rural areas that will be cut off from service if this legislation goes through.

Valerie Winemiller